

TRIBUTE TO TONI AND JOHN A.
SCHULMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Toni and John Schulman, my good friends who will be honored this evening by the American Jewish Committee. They will be presented with the prestigious 2001 Social Concern Award for their many contributions and tireless efforts to help others, especially children.

The American Jewish Committee is dedicated to the protection of civil and religious rights worldwide and its members take pride in honoring individuals who actively participate and generously give their time to this effort. The AJC's Social Concern Award recognizes the contributions and accomplishments of individuals who dedicate their time and good works to improve the lives of people in their community. Toni and John Schulman embody the spirit of this award and are role models for all of us.

Toni and John have given their love, energy and devotion to better the quality of life for children of all religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds. They are people of enormous integrity, great generosity and myriad accomplishments. I have had the pleasure of knowing the Schulmans for many years and have worked with John on a number of issues of concern to Warner Bros., where he serves as Executive Vice President and General Counsel.

John is a member of the Board of Directors of Bet Zedek Legal Services, California Legal Corps and the Constitutional Rights Foundation, and is involved with the Youth Law Center. All of these organizations provide free services, legal counseling and many other beneficial services for children.

Toni is a Trustee of both United Friends of the Children and the Alliance for Children's Rights. United Friends annually helps thousands of Los Angeles children who are victims of abuse, abandonment or neglect. The Alliance is the City's only free legal service organization devoted entirely to helping children living in poverty.

Toni and John are, to put it simply, wonderful people who give unstintingly to others. I am honored to express the gratitude of the community for their tireless service and to congratulate them on this recognition of their outstanding work. Please join me in saluting Toni and John Schulman for their many important and praiseworthy endeavors.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
EMILY C. WILLIAMS ON HER AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACAD-
EMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young woman from Ohio's Fifth Congressional Dis-

trict. I am happy to announce that Emily C. Williams of Sandusky, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, Emily's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming USNA class of 2005. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Emily brings an enormous amount of leadership, service and dedication to the incoming class of Naval Academy Midshipmen. While attending Perkins High School in Sandusky, Emily has attained a grade point average of 4.37, which places her eighth in a class of one hundred seventy-nine students. Emily is a member of the National Honor Society and has earned several Scholar-Athlete awards.

Outside the classroom, Emily has distinguished herself as an excellent student-athlete and performing artist. On the fields of competition, Emily has earned letters in volleyball, basketball and softball. Also, Emily is an accomplished member of the marching band, wind ensemble, and pit orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay special tribute to Emily C. Williams. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Emily will do very well during her career at the Naval Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her well as she begins her service to the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on May 21, 2001, due to a delayed flight; therefore I missed rollcall votes 126 and 127. If I had been present, I would have voted "yes" for both H. Con. Res. 56 and H.R. 1885, rollcall votes 126 and 127 respectively.

MINOR ANIMAL SPECIES HEALTH ACT OF 2001

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to bring attention to a problem faced by livestock and food animal producers, animal and pet owners, zoo and wildlife biologists, and the animals themselves, which unfortunately goes largely unnoticed except by those who are directly affected.

There currently exists a severe shortage of approved animal drugs for use in minor animal species. These minor animal species include those animals other than cattle, horses, chickens, turkeys, dogs, and cats. In addition, there exists a similar shortage of pharmaceutical medicines for major animal species for dis-

eases that occur infrequently or which occur only in limited geographic areas. Due to the lack of availability of these minor use drugs, millions of animals go either untreated for illnesses or treatment is delayed. This results not only in unnecessary animal suffering but may threaten human health as well.

Because of limited market opportunity, low profit margins, and enormous capital investment required, it is generally not economically feasible for drug manufacturers to pursue research and development and then approval for medicines used in treating minor species and infrequent conditions and diseases.

In addition to the animals themselves, without access to these necessary minor use drugs, farmers and ranchers also suffer. An unhealthy animal that is left untreated can spread disease through an entire stock of its fellow specie resulting in severe economic losses and hardships to agriculture producers.

For example, Mr. Speaker, sheep ranchers lost nearly \$45 million worth of livestock alone in 1999. The sheep industry estimates that if it had access to effective and necessary minor use medicines, grower reproduction costs for these animals would be cut by upwards of 15%. In addition, feedlot deaths would be reduced 1-2% adding approximately \$8 million of revenue to the industry.

The catfish industry, a top agriculture sector in my home state of Mississippi which generates enormous economic opportunities for our people, especially within the Mississippi Delta, estimates its losses at \$60 million per year attributable to minor diseases for which drugs are not available. The U.S. aquaculture industry overall, including food as well as ornamental fish, produces and raises over 800 different species. Unfortunately, the industry has only five drugs approved for use in treating aquaculture diseases. The result is tremendous economic hardship and animal suffering within the industry.

Mr. Speaker, joined with my colleagues, Mr. COMBEST of Texas, Mr. POMBO of California, Mr. OTTER of Idaho, Mr. SIMPSON of Idaho, and Ms. THURMAN of Florida, I resolve to correct this unfortunate situation by introducing the Minor Animal Species Health Act of 2001. This legislation will allow companies the opportunity to develop and approve minor use drugs which are of vital interest to a large number of animal industries. Our legislation incorporates the major proposals of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine to increase the availability of drugs for minor animal species and rare diseases in all animals.

The Animal Drug Availability Act of 1996 required the Food and Drug Administration to provide Congress with a report, describing administrative and legislative proposals to improve and enhance the animal drug approval process for minor uses and minor species of new animal drugs. This report by FDA, delivered to Congress in December of 1998, laid out nine proposals. Eight of the FDA's proposals required statutory changes. The bill I am introducing today reflects the changes called for in the Agency's minor species/minor use report. The Act creates incentives for animal drug manufacturers to invest in product development and obtain FDA marketing approvals. Furthermore, it creates a program very similar to the successful Human Orphan Drug Program that has, over the past twenty years, dramatically increased the availability of drugs to treat rare human diseases. Mr.